

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No.

PCT/US04/20456

A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER

IPC(7) : A61F 02/30, 02/42

US CL : 623/18.11, 21.18

According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC

B. FIELDS SEARCHED

Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols)

U.S. : 623/18.11, 21.18

Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched

Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practicable, search terms used)
EAST Text Search

C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category *	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
X	US 6,814,757 B2 (Kopylov et al) 9 November 2004 (09.11.2005), see abstract and Figs. 1, 2 and 6b.	1-4, 8-12, and 22-24
A	US 6,673,116 B2 (Reiley) 05 April 2005 (05.04.2005), see Figs. 10 and 10a.	1-24
A	US 6,540,786 B2 (Chibrac et al) 01 April 2003 (01.04.2003), see Figs. 1-4d.	1-24
A	US 6,436,146 B1 (Hassler et al) 20 August 2002 (20.08.2002), see Figs. 10A-16C	1-22
A	US 5,171,322 (Kenny) 15 December 1992 (15.12.92), see Figs. 1-15	1-22



Further documents are listed in the continuation of Box C.



See patent family annex.

Special categories of cited documents:	
* "A" document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance	"T" later document published after the international filing date or priority date and not in conflict with the application but cited to understand the principle or theory underlying the invention
"E" earlier application or patent published on or after the international filing date	"X" document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered novel or cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is taken alone
"L" document which may throw doubts on priority claim(s) or which is cited to establish the publication date of another citation or other special reason (as specified)	"Y" document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is combined with one or more other such documents, such combination being obvious to a person skilled in the art
"O" document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or other means	"&" document member of the same patent family
"P" document published prior to the international filing date but later than the priority date claimed	

Date of the actual completion of the international search

13 May 2005 (13.05.2005)

Date of mailing of the international search report

07 JUN 2005

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